Building a Fetal MRI Program:
8 Lessons

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Fetal MRI Program

- Fetal Center
  - Diverse and broad caregivers
  - Risk and Opportunity
  - How can we build
    - Collegiality
    - Collaboration
Collegiality

• More than “co-workers”

• Cooperation vs. competition

• Patient advocates
Collaboration

Collaboration
• Lesson #1 – Maternal-Fetal Medicine
  ○ Create opportunities for collaboration
  ○ US and MRI
    ▫ (not “US vs MRI”)
• **Lesson #2 – Be flexible and be available**

  - Communication is key
  - Be willing to discuss when MRI will help and when it will not help
  - Follow-up on cases
Lesson #3 – Consolidate expertise

- Need to concentrate fetal MRI exposure
- Single location makes your presence more likely
- Technologist experience
Lessons: Fetal MRI

Lesson #4 – Team up with your technologists

- Learn with them
- Attend the exams
- Cultivate a “super tech”
Lessons: Fetal MRI

- Lesson #5 – Multidisciplinary conversations
  - Foster opportunities to discuss
  - Highlight the team approach to fetal care
  - Service to physicians as well as patients
Lessons: Fetal MRI

- Lesson #6 – Create Appropriateness Criteria
  - When to order fetal MRI?
  - Diagnosis list, timing list
  - Identify patients who would benefit from follow-up imaging
Lessons: Fetal MRI

- Lesson #7 – Investigational alongside Clinical
  - Trial and error
  - Precision and Quantification
  - Whole Body MRI
Lesson #8 – A Fetal “Center” is not a Building

- Relationships
- Build the team first, and the structure can follow
- Emphasize communication
8 Lessons

- Get to know MFM
- Be available and flexible
- Consolidate fetal MRI experience
- Team with the technologist
- Multidisciplinary conversations
- Create appropriateness criteria
- Build investigational with the clinical
- Relationships, not structures
Relationships, not structures

- How to build a fetal MRI program